

2004 CZU VMP PROJECTS

Cloverdale Ranch – RX North-017 CZU

This VMP is for 2 units covering approximately 150 acres. The Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) owns the property. Historically the property has been intensively grazed and cultivated for cereal crops. POST is working to restore the native ecosystem on the ranch and prescribed fire is one of the tools that have proven successful. The first unit under this VMP was burned during the fall of 2002 and the second unit will be burned during the fall of 2003.

Hill 18 – RX North-018 CZU

This VMP covers 3 individual burn units on the San Francisco Water Department properties. The areas will be treated with a combination of mechanical treatment and fire. These burns were planned as part of the San Francisco Watershed's Vegetation Management Plan. The sites were chosen to provide firebreaks and reduce the fuel load in key areas near urban boundaries and to maintain biological diversity in the watershed.

Russian Ridge – RX North-020 CZU

This is a 75-acre VMP burn on Russian Ridge along Skyline Boulevard in San Mateo County. The property is owned by the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District and is part of the District's property wide fire protection plan. Past burning on this property has proven to be very beneficial in the effort to restore native vegetation in this upper coastal terrace prairie. With the town of Los Altos directly to the east of the burn site, fire protection benefits cannot be overstated. The creation of an effective east/west firebreak along this ridge has already proven to mitigate the potential fire hazard in the area. A wildfire in 2001 below a past, adjacent VMP burn provided a safe site for successfully fighting the wildfire.

Juncus Tank Ravine – RX North-021 CZU

This VMP burn is for 65 acres of grass and brush on San Bruno Mountain. The area is on the Colma side of the mountain. This burn will reduce the fire hazard of the area and assist in resorting native vegetation to the area. Special mitigations will be implemented to protect the endangered butterflies and their host plants. Tremendous coordination among the surrounding fire agencies as well as the Bay Area Air Quality Management District are key to the success of the burns on San Bruno Mountain due to the high population areas surrounding the mountain and the proximity to the San Francisco International Airport.

Star Creek Ranch – RX North-022 CZU

This VMP burn is for 40 acres of brush in the southern part of the San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit. The property is privately owned. The brush is to be tractor crushed by CDF and burned after the brush has cured. After treatment the area will serve as an effective fuel break along a main east/west ridgeline. The re-introduction of fire to this coastal sagebrush ecosystem will help to control invasive species and increase native species.

Big Basin State Park – RX North-023 CZU

This VMP is for 4 burn units on 1680 acres in Big Basin State Park. This VMP was prepared in cooperation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation. The planned burns are part of the parks' long-standing burning program. The first burn was accomplished during the fall of 2002 on 125 acres. All the burns in the park generally occur after the first rains of the fall and create challenges for the unit to provide resources at the end of fire season.

Wax Myrtle Ravine – RX North-024 CZU

This VMP burn is for 7 acres of heavy slash located within the San Bruno Mountain State and County Park in South San Francisco. San Bruno Mountain is State Responsibility Area situated on the San Francisco Peninsula with surrounding fire jurisdictions of South San Francisco Fire Department, San Francisco Fire Department, San Bruno Fire Department, Daly City fire Department, Brisbane Fire Department and Colma Fire Protection District. Special considerations for planning this burn were given for the endangered butterflies that inhabit San Bruno Mountain. The burn will reduce the fire hazard along a major road (the Guadalupe Canyon Parkway) and will be one important step to restore native vegetation and expand the habitat for the endangered butterflies on the mountain.

Wilder Ranch State Park – RX North-025 CZU

The Wilder Ranch VMP covers 4 burn units comprising 1147 acres. This VMP was prepared in cooperation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation. The major goals of the burns in the park are to reduce the fire hazard in the park, reintroduce fire into the ecosystem that has evolved with fire and to promote native species. The first unit was burned in June 2003 and covered 300 acres. Several neighboring fire departments participated with CDF and DPR in the burn including Santa Cruz Central Fire, Mid Peninsula Regional Open Space District and UCSC Fire Department. We plan on accomplishing the 3 other burn units over the next 2 years.

**SAN MATEO & SANTA CRUZ VEGETATION MANAGEMENT
PRESCRIBED BURN LOCATIONS**

